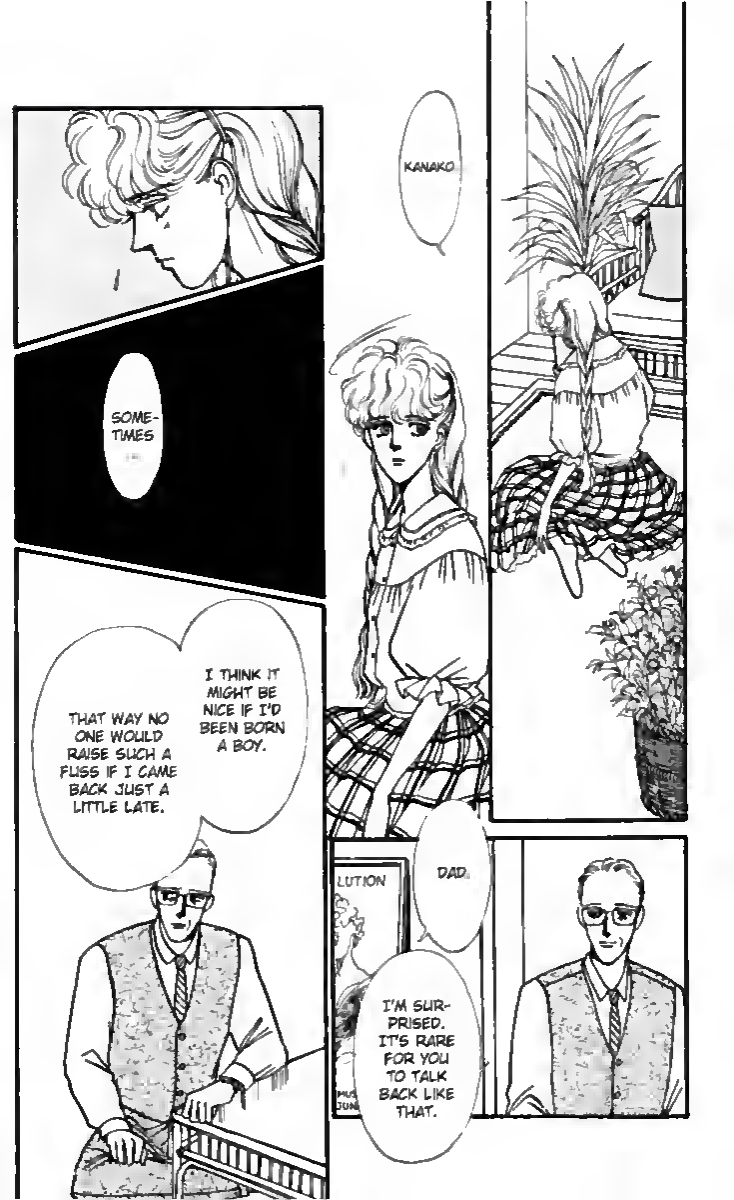
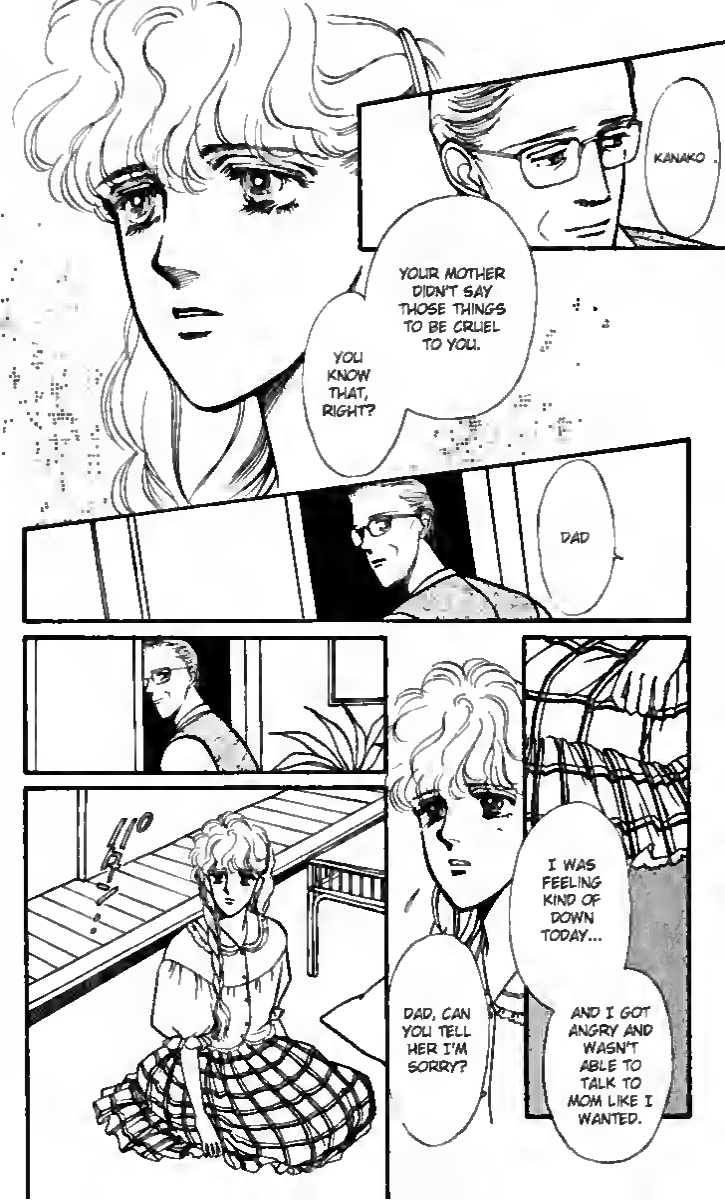
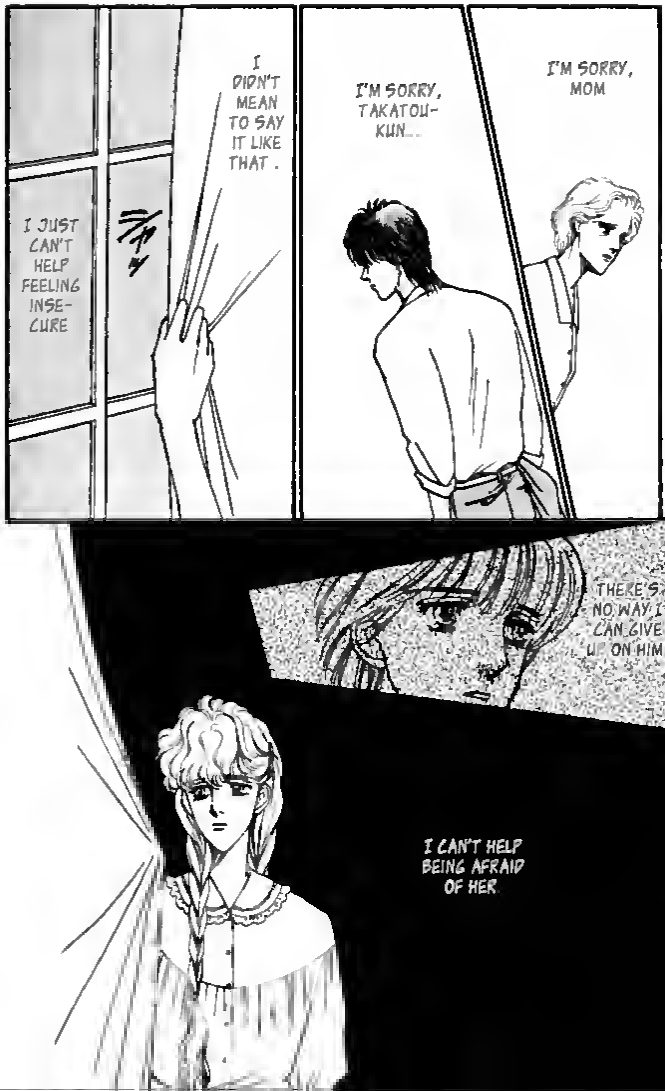
ガラッ
I'M HO-...
DON'T YOU FEEL BAD ABOUT IT AT ALL?
IS IT SO WRONG THAT I MET SOME FRIENDS ON THE WAY BACK AND SPENT SOME TIME IN A COFFEE SHOP?!
I DIDN'T SAY THERE WAS ANYTHING WRONG WITH THAT, BUT YOU WERE OUT SO LATE WITHOUT EVEN CALLING. DIDN'T YOU THINK WE'D WORRY?
YOU'VE BEEN ACTING STRANGELY LATELY. YOU'VE NEVER DONE THESE SORTS OF THINGS BEFORE!

WHAT SORTS OF PEOPLE ARE THESE FRIENDS YOU'RE HANGING OUT WITH?
IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU!
WHY DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?
KANAKO!
.....


KANAKO
SOME-
TIMES
I THINK IT MIGHT BE NICE IF I'D BEEN BORN A BOY.
THAT WAY NO ONE WOULD RAISE SUCH A FUSS IF I CAME BACK JUST A LITTLE LATE.
DAD.
I'M SUR-
PRISED.
IT'S RARE
FOR YOU
TO TALK
BACK LIKE
THAT.

JUMPING DOWN FROM HIGH WALLS...
LEAVING HOME IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT AND CRASHING IN A FRIEND'S ROOM...
BRUSHING UNPLEASANT THINGS OFF WITH JUST ONE WORD OF APOLOGY...
YOU KNOW A BOY LIKE THAT, THEN?
N-NOT REALLY...
NO. THE WAY YOU SAID THAT SOUNDED LIKE IT WAS BASED ON REAL EVENTS.


KANAKO
YOUR MOTHER DIDN'T SAY THOSE THINGS TO BE CRUEL TO YOU.
YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?
DAD
I WAS FEELING KIND OF DOWN TODAY...
AND I GOT ANGRY AND WASN'T ABLE TO TALK TO MOM LIKE I WANTED.
DAD, CAN YOU TELL HER I'M SORRY?


I'M SORRY, MOM
I'M SORRY, TAKATOU-KUN...
I DIDN'T MEAN TO SAY IT LIKE THAT.
I JUST CAN'T HELP FEELING INSE-CURE
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN GIVE U ON HIM
I CAN'T HELP BEING AFRAID OF HER

MASAKI
HUH?!
WHAT?
DON'T "WHAT" ME. YOU JUST FELL ASLEEP WHILE YOU WERE EATING, DIDN'T YOU?
CLUB ACTIVITIES ARE GOOD, BUT PLEASE THINK ABOUT YOUR GOALS A BIT, TOO...
NO WAY, I WAS JUST SPACING OUT A LITTLE
MASAKI

WHAT GOOD ARE EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES TO SOMEONE WHO ISN'T PERFORMING SATISFACTORILY IN SCHOOL?
I GET IT.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, YOU GET IT?
WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO SAY IS THAT EVERYTHING'S FINE IF I JUST STUDY, RIGHT?
ガタン!
YOU WON'T COMPLAIN SO LONG AS I STUDY AND GET THE HIGHEST GRADES IN MY CLASS, RIGHT?

BUT I'LL SEE IF I CAN GET IN THE TOP TEN.
G'NIGHT.
WHAT NONSENSE! DO YOU SERIOUSLY THINK YOU CAN MAKE IT TO THE TOP OF YOUR CLASS AS YOU ARE NOW?
I DON'T THINK I CAN SUDDENLY PLACE FIRST.
.....
ガチャ

SO TIRED...

HAHA, WHAT I WOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN TO SEE DAD'S FACE WHEN HE HEARD THAT.
YOUR FATHER WAS BASICALLY THREATENING TO MAKE HIM DROP HIS CLUB ACTIVITIES IF HIS TEST RESULTS WENT ANY LOWER.
EHH?! HE REALLY SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
I'M NOT SO SURE ABOUT THAT.
GEEZ, THAT BOY SAYS SOME IMPOSSIBLE THINGS SOMETIMES...
IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, DIDN'T HE GET TO THE CHAMPIONSHIPS IN BASKETBALL AND PASS THE ENTRANCE EXAMINATION FOR HIS PREVIOUS SCHOOL, AS WELL?
WHENEVER HE SAYS HE'LL DO SOMETHING, HE SOMEHOW MANAGES TO PULL IT OFF.

WELL, MAYBE HE WILL SOMEHOW MAKE IT TO THE TOP.
HIS CURRENT SCHOOL ISN'T AS PRESTIGIOUS AS EAST HIGH WAS, BUT IT HAS A HIGHLY RESPECTED CURRICULUM FOCUSED ON PREPARING STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE. IT WON'T BE AS EASY AS HE MAKES IT SOUND.
LET HIM DO WHAT HE WANTS FOR A BIT. YOU AND DAD ARE PUTTING A LITTLE TOO MUCH PRESSURE ON HIM.
OUT OF ALL OF US BROTHERS, I REALLY THINK HE'S THE MOST PASSIONATELY INDEPENDENT.
BUT WE'RE AT THE END OF OUR ROPES JUST TRYING TO KEEP AN EYE ON THAT BOY HE'S ALWAYS GETTING INTO TROUBLE
TRUE, BUT ISN'T THAT ALL THE MORE REASON TO LEAVE HIM BE?
ANYWAY, WHY NOT LET HIM FREE FOR A WHILE

ABOUT YESTERDAY, I'M S-...
AS WE EXPLAINED LAST WEEK, CLASSES B AND C WILL BE WORKING TOGETHER THIS WEEK TO MAKE SKIRTS.
HOME ECONOMICS
GEEZ! HOW NERVE, SANNY IT'S GOT LAME IN IT
NO NEED TO BE SO ANGRY...
I-IT'S NOT LIKE THAT! I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF CUTTING OUT A PATTERN.
THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE CHOSEN YOUR PATTERN, PLEASE START CUTTING.
KANAKO-SAN, TAKATOU-KUN IS ASKING FOR YOU.
UMM...
ANYWAY, I'VE BEEN MEANING TO APOLO-GIZE ABOUT YESTER-DAY. SORRY...

T/N LAME IS A CLOTH MADE UP OF THIN METALLIC THREADS.

HOW RARE FOR HIM TO BOW HIS HEAD TO OTHERS
N-NO... ACTUALLY,
I SHOULD APOLO-GIZE.
. BY THE WAY, IF IT'S ALL RIGHT, I WAS WON-DERING IF YOU WOULD LOAN ME YOUR NOTES FOR RECENT LECTURES?
OUR LESSONS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED
AH, I KNEW IT AN ULTERIOR MOTIVE
SURE, BUT... WHY SO SUDDEN?
UMM... WELL, I JUST FIGURED I SHOULD START STUDYING SERIOUSLY.
HMM...
YOU'RE TRYING TO GET INTO THE NATIONAL PASSING RANGE SINCE YOU SLEPT THROUGH SO MANY LECURES, I GUESS. I'M GLAD TO HEAR IT, BUT...
WELL...

AS IT TURNS OUT, I ENDED UP PROMISING MY DAD THAT I'D SCORE IN THE TOP TEN ON THE NEXT EXAMINATION.
UH, THE TRUTH IS...
THE TOP TEN? YOU WON'T EVEN HAVE TIME TO SLEEP...
WELL, I ALREADY SAID IT. IT CAN'T BE HELPED
NOT MUCH I CAN DO NOW BUT POWER THROUGH IT
THEY'RE IN MY DESK. YOU CAN TAKE THEM IF YOU'D LIKE.
DON'T FIGHT WITH YOUR DAD TOO MUCH, OKAY?
GOT IT.
Thanks.
ARE YOU STILL NOT GETTING ALONG WELL WITH YOUR DAD?
WE NEVER GET ALONG.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY IT LIKE THAT...

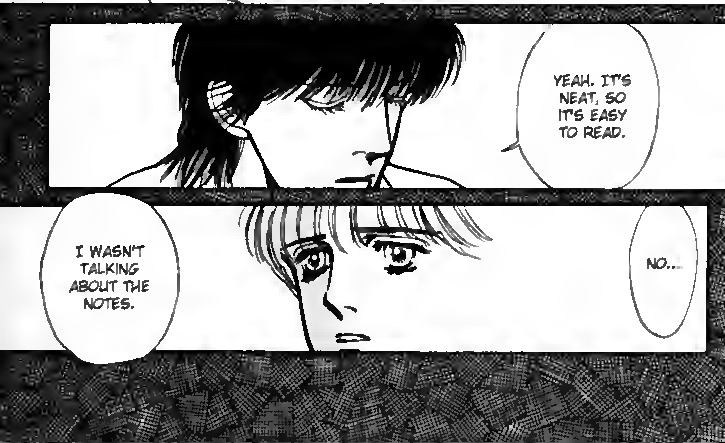
JUST NOW
I WONDER IF SHE WAS LOOKING AT ME
MAMI, LOOK AT THIS!

SO, DO YOU THINK THAT'S THE TYPE OF GIRL GUYS FALL FOR RIGHT AWAY?
WASN'T THAT CLASS C'S RUMORED TAKATOU-KUN?
I GIVE UP AFTER WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY, WE HAVE TO BE IN THE SAME ROOM TOGETHER FOR COMBINED CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES?
IF POSSIBLE, I WAS HOPING THAT I WOULDN'T HAVE TO SEE HER
カタン!

WHERE HAVE ALL THE OTHER BOYS GONE?
THEY'RE OUTSIDE PLAYING SOFTBALL. DON'T YOU HAVE THE WRONG CLASSROOM?!
NOT AT ALL. WE USE CLASS C'S ROOM FOR HOME EC THEORY.
... TAKATOU-KUN, I'LL BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW...
EVERY TIME, THE GIRLS FROM CLASS B SECRETLY FIGHT ABOUT WHO WILL TAKE YOUR SEAT.

OW!
AH, YOU'RE BLEEDING..
WOW. I THINK IT WENT PRETTY DEEP.
I'LL HEAD BACK TO CLASS TO GRAB A BANDAID.
THAT WRITING IS REALLY NEAT. ARE THOSE KANAKO-SAN'S NOTES?

(T/N: "KIREI" きれい CAN MEAN EITHER NICE/BEAUTIFUL OR TIDY/NEAT. TAKATOU BELIEVES SHE IS TELLING HIM THE NOTES ARE NEATLY WRITTEN.)



TAKATOU-KUN, YOUR LIPS...
HAVE SUCH A PRETTY SHAPE.
I REALLY HATE...
THOSE KINDS OF JOKES.
IT MAKES ME WANT TO KISS YOU.
BUT I'M NOT JOKING! I'M SERIOUS!
I HATE THAT EVEN MORE
PAK

BOYFRIEND by Kaoru Fuyumi

VOLUME 3, CHAPTER 3

THIS SCANLATION WAS MADE BY A FAN, FOR FANS. PLEASE SUPPORT THE MANGAKA BY PURCHASING THE VOLUMES OF THIS SERIES WHEN/IF THEY BECOME AVAILABLE IN YOUR AREA! THANKS FOR READING!